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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/814,235	03/21/2001	Makoto Kubota	FUJY 18.457	1975

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EXAMINER

DELGADO, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2144

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/814,235

Applicant(s)

KUBOTA ET AL.

Examiner

Michael S. A. Delgado

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2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,856,974 by Gervais et al.

In claim 1, Gervais teaches about a relay system relaying two or more networks to which one or more communication devices are connected, comprising (Fig 3):

two or more interface units accessing said networks (Col 6, lines 45-55);

a domain definition module defining domains as a system framework including one or more networks (Col 6, lines 45-55);

a connection definition module defining connectability between the two or more domains (Col 8, lines 1-10);

a routing module storing a routing destination of the communication data (Col 6, lines 45-55);

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an address translation module for translating, when forwarding communication data from a first domain to a second domain, a first address belonging to the first domain contained in a source address field of the communication data into a second address of the relay system belonging to the second domain (Col 7, lines 50-67);

an address reverse translation module for translating, when receiving communication data having the second address in a destination address field, the second address belonging to the second domain contained in the destination address field of the communication data into the first address belonging to the first domain (Col 7, lines 50-67); and

a control unit controlling a connectability for routing between the two or more domains in accordance with definitions of said connection definition module (Col 6, lines 55-65).

In claim 2, Gervais teaches about a relay system according to claim 1, wherein said domain definition module defines the domain by information for identifying said interface unit connected to this domain (Col 8, lines 1-10).

In claim 3, Gervais teaches about a relay system according to claim 1, wherein said control unit discards such a piece of communication data that the domain (or said interface unit receiving the communication data) corresponding to said interface unit receiving the communication data, is different from the domain (or said interface unit corresponding to the domain to which a source address of the communication data belongs) to which the source address of the communication data belongs (Col 12, lines 5-15).

In claim 4, Gervais teaches about a relay system according to claim 1, wherein said domain definition module is defined per domain by an address (or an address for identifying the communication device connected to the network included in the domain) for identifying a network included in the domain (Col 8, lines 1-10).

In claim 5, Gervais teaches about a communication data relay method for relaying two or more networks to which one or more communication devices are connected, comprising (Fig 3):

referring a domain definition module defining domains as a system framework including one or more networks (Col 6, lines 45-55);

referring a connection definition module for defining connectability between the two or more domains (Col 8, lines 1-10);

referring a routing module storing a routing destination of the communication data (Col 6, lines 45-55);

translating, when forwarding communication data from a first domain to a second domain, a first address belonging to the first domain contained in a source address field of the communication data into a second address of the relay system belonging to the second domain (Col 7, lines 50-67);

reverse translating, when receiving communication data having the second address in a destination address field, the second address belonging to the second domain contained in the destination address field of the communication data into the first address belonging to the first domain (Col 7, lines 50-67); and

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controlling connectability for routing between the two or more domains in accordance with definitions of said connection definition module (Col 6, lines 55-65).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US patent no. 6,393,488 by Araujo, teaches about a system and method for supporting internet protocol subnets with network address translators

US patent no. 6,047,325 by Jain et al, teaches about a network device for supporting construction of virtual local area networks on arbitrary local and wide area computer networks.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael S. A. Delgado whose telephone number is (571) 272-3926. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 AM - 5.30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM A CUCHLINSKI JR can be reached on (571) 272-3925


The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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